On March 22, 1972, President Richard Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 and established a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older.

Thirty years later, in March 2002, Meals on Wheels America established the National March for Meals Campaign to recognize that historic month of achievement, emphasizing the importance of Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs – both congregate and home-delivered – and raising public awareness about the escalating problem of senior hunger in America.

Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs in Los Angeles County have served our communities admirably for more than 40 years. Volunteer drivers for Meals on Wheels programs in Los Angeles County are the backbone of the program, not only delivering nutritious meals to homebound seniors and individuals with disabilities, but also offering caring concern and attention to their welfare.

	<u>MOTION</u>
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RIDLEY-THOMAS	
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MOTION

Meals on Wheels programs in Los Angeles County help our seniors maintain their health and independence and avoid unnecessary hospitalizations and premature institutionalization. Moreover, they provide a powerful socialization opportunity for millions of seniors to help combat loneliness and isolation.

This year's 2015 observance of the March for Meals campaign provides a powerful opportunity for our community to support these vitally important Meals on Wheels programs by donating, volunteering and raising awareness about these issues affecting our senior population.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT the Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims March 2015 as "March for Meals" Month in the County of Los Angeles, recognizing the contributions that Meals on Wheels programs have made and will continue to make to local communities, our state and our nation, and encouraging every resident to take time this month to honor our Meals on Wheels programs, the seniors they serve and the volunteers who care for them.

JB:\s:\ March for Meals Month